

**SUMMARY OF THE  
PROGRAM POLICY AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 23, 2000**

The Program Policy and Structure Committee of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) met by teleconference Wednesday, August 23, 2000, from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The meeting was led by its chair, Dr. Kenneth Jackson of the New York State Department of Health. A list of action items is given in Attachment A. A list of participants is given in Attachment B. *The purpose of the meeting was to continue to discuss strategies for grouping methods for assessment purposes.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The committee approved the minutes of the August 9, 2000 teleconference.

**GROUPING OF COMPARABLE METHODS**

The committee's task is to find ways to simplify the current fields of testing, for assessment purposes, so that it supports NELAC reciprocity. Dr. Jackson opened the discussion by reviewing the revisions that he had made to his list and had sent to the committee members. The committee members' assignments are as follows:

Program	Organic	Inorganic	Bacteriology
SDWA	Steve Clark	Ken Jackson	Ken Jackson
CWA	Tom McAninch	Elaine Sorbet	Elaine Sorbet
RCRA	Ann Rosecrance	Arthur Burton	na
CAA	Ken Jackson		na

Dr. Michael Miller (substitute for Mr. Joseph Aiello) mentioned that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has dropped a few Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) methods and when a laboratory uses those SDWA methods they will not be in compliance with EPA regulations. This is a fundamental issue that should be a topic at the Sixth NELAC Interim Meeting (VIi). The states will need to align their methods with the SWDA.

Dr. Jackson initiated discussion on the revised SDWA/Inorganics list. With the "same method" approach, discussion continued through the SDWA/Inorganic, Clean Water Act (CWA)/Organic, CWA/Inorganic, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Organic lists. Conversation was initiated on the RCRA/Inorganic list but the committee will revisit this at the next teleconference. Dr. Jackson will be consolidating the lists in a consistent format. He mentioned that the committee only had four more teleconferences in which to develop a model. The committee needs to develop a list of

matrices that they are going to propose at the Interim Meeting. This will be on the agenda for the next teleconference.

Discussion concluded due to expiration of time for the teleconference.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Dr. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The committee will meet again on September 6, 2000.

**ACTION ITEMS  
PROGRAM POLICY AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 23, 2000**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date to be Completed</b>
1.	Dr. Burton will revise the RCRA/Inorganic list	September 6, 2000
2.	Committee members prepare to discuss the matrices that they should propose at the Interim Meeting	September 6, 2000

**PARTICIPANTS**  
**PROGRAM POLICY AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AUGUST 23, 2000**

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